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Year-end Review of Wyoming's Labor Market 2009

by: Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics Supervisor

This article examines the decline in Wyoming's labor force, as well as the increase in the state's unemployment rate to its highest point in more than 22 years. It also looks at the increase in mass layoffs and over-the-year job losses.

Early in 2009, Wyoming followed in the footsteps of the rest of the nation and entered the recession according to the Wyoming Economic Analysis Division (Liu, 2009).

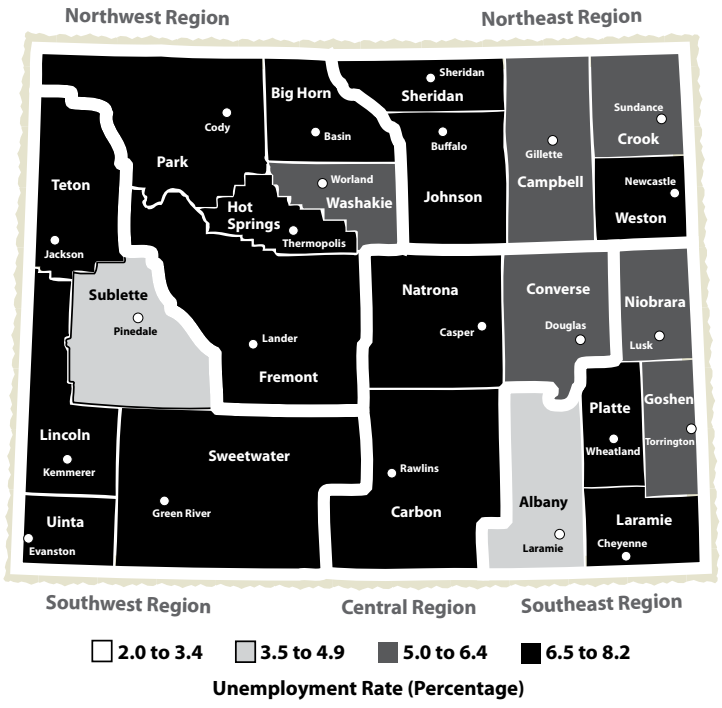
In October, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate reached 7.4% for the first time since September 1987. Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure used to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series in order to obtain a better understanding of changes in economic conditions from month to month. The annual average seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for 2009 is expected to be 5.9%. The labor force – the sum of employed and unemployed persons – has also decreased from a high of 294,877 in December 2008 to 292,154 in October 2009. Nationally, the official Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) unemployment rate estimate is referred to as U-3. The annual average U-5 and U-6 rate, which are alternative measures of labor underutilization, have also increased over the last year (Cowan, 2009). In 2007 and 2008, the U-5 and U-6 were 3.4% and 5.7%, respectively, for Wyoming. For fourth quarter 2008 and third quarter 2009, the BLS reported that these rates rose to 6.0% and 9.5%, respectively, for Wyoming.

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **In 2006 and 2008, Research & Planning conducted a succession planning survey within the Wyoming Department of Employment and other state agencies. A comparison of those surveys shows which responses changed during that time, and which didn't. . . . *page 4***
- **New data on earnings within age, gender, industry, and county categories are available online now. Examples of the type of data that can be found are included in this issue of *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*. . . . *page 14***

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, October 2009 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



IN THIS ISSUE

Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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(Text continued from page 1)

Since March 2009, Wyoming has also experienced over-the-year job losses. By October 2009, jobs had dropped to 287,200, a 5.5% over-the-year decline from 303,800 jobs in October 2008. This marked the first over-the-year job losses in Wyoming since November 1987. Those over-the-year job losses continued from April 1986 through April 1988 when job numbers finally started to increase again. Job losses are forecast to continue throughout the rest of 2009, and December's employment is expected to be approximately 279,000.

Mass layoffs have also been increasing in Wyoming (see table) since the start of the recession. The Research & Planning-BLS Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program of the BLS tracks any layoff of 50 people or more by one employer. The number increased from 5 in 2007 to 8 in 2008 and is projected to reach 12 in 2009.

Energy prices dropped dramatically during the recession; the last time this happened was after the Enron collapse in 2001. Wyoming's unemployment rate increased from around 4% in 2001 to a high of 4.7% in June 2003. After that it slowly decreased and was back down to 3.9% by February 2004. It continued to decrease to as low as 2.7% in October 2007 and January 2008 until this recession. It is not clear when Wyoming's unemployment rate will return to low levels.

Table : Wyoming Mass Layoff Statistics for 2009

Year	Layoff events: Total for all Industries
2001	4
2002	4
2003	4
2004	6
2005	7
2006	5
2007	5
2008	8
2009	12 (p)

p=projections

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Mass Layoff Statistics Program

References

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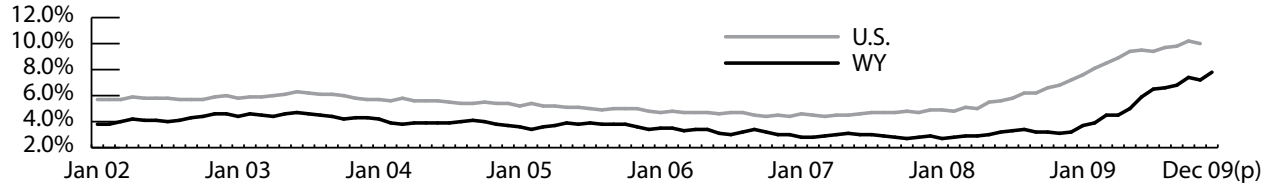


Data source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS).
(p) Projected.

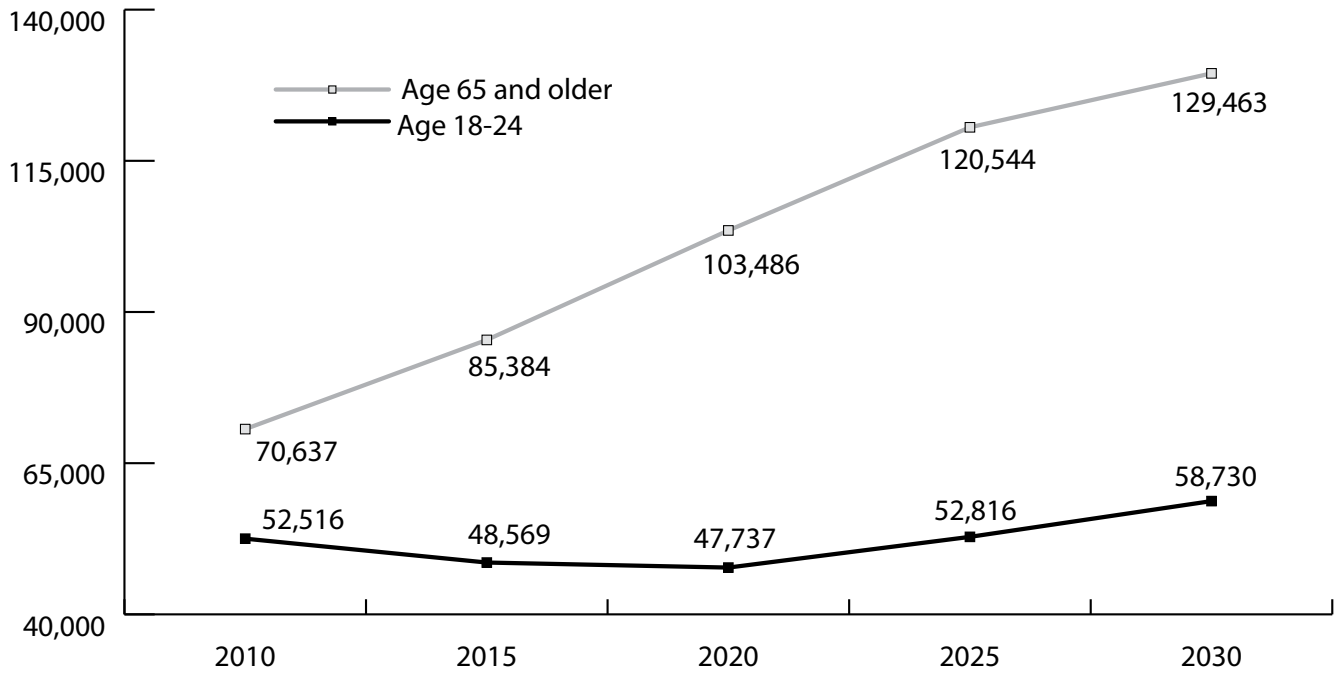
Figure : Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates for Wyoming and the United States

Comparing Results of 2006, 2008 Succession Planning Surveys

by: Lisa Knapp, Research Analyst

In 2006 and 2008, Research & Planning (R&P) conducted a succession planning survey within the Wyoming Department of Employment (DOE) and other state agencies. Succession planning is a process that not only seeks to identify areas within an organization that will not have enough workers as older employees retire, but also seeks to identify areas of workplace satisfaction that could be improved upon to increase worker retention.

One of the most important factors driving the need for succession planning is an aging population. The oldest members of the baby boom generation (born between 1946 and 1964) will reach the traditional retirement age of 65 in 2011, and a large increase in retirements is expected to occur over the next 20 years as the rest of this generation ages. As Figure 1 illustrates, the population of younger people in Wyoming is smaller than those age 65 and older and declining, while the number of those age 65 and older is growing. This is not just a problem for Wyoming or the nation, but a global issue (United Nations, 2002). In Wyoming and the U.S., this will affect business and government organizations in the future because there will be a



Source: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information, Economic Analysis Division (http://eadiv.state.wy.us).

Figure 1: **Projected Population Growth For Selected Age Groups In Wyoming, 2010-2030, Based On 2008 Projections**

smaller labor supply to replace retired workers.

When the economy is in a downturn, as has been the case nationally since December 2007, succession planning tends to be viewed as less important by organizations than during an economic expansion. During hard economic times, employees, regardless of age, are less likely to voluntarily leave their jobs because of the uncertainty of finding new jobs. Older workers who might have been planning to retire when the economy was good may not retire during a recession because they cannot afford to do so.

However, when the economy expands, the popularity of succession planning grows. The most important reason is to determine how the workplace will be affected as employees retire or leave for other reasons. Retirees, especially those with long histories at the same job, take with them large amounts of institutional knowledge that are difficult and costly to replace. Also important is the creation of a satisfactory work environment that will draw younger workers to fill spots vacated by retirees and retain them. This includes satisfaction with wages and benefits, positive interactions among employees and supervisors, a feeling of inclusion and involvement, and a sense of pride in the workplace.

R&P has conducted several studies related to succession planning. In both 2006 and 2008, succession planning studies were conducted within Wyoming state government, which involved many different occupations within one industry. In 2006 only the Wyoming Department of Employment (DOE) was surveyed, but the 2008 project included the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services (DWS) and the Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS). For more information on the methodology and results of these studies, please see http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/SP_Report.pdf and http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/SPR_08/Succession_Planning_2008.pdf.

R&P has conducted similar research on nurses, an occupation critical to the state that spans a number of industries. The average age of nurses is increasing faster than that of workers in many other occupations and it is important to understand that process in order to retain nurses and recruit new nurses. In 2007 a survey was sent to nurses working in ambulatory care, hospitals, or long-term care in order to measure workplace satisfaction and to identify possible reasons why nurses leave their jobs. The methodology and results of this study can be found at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/nursing_retention_08.pdf. In 2008 the same survey was sent to nurses working in public health. The methodology and results of that study can be found at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/phn_09/title.htm.

The purpose of this paper is to examine the succession planning survey results from 2006 and 2008 for the Department of Employment. These results will be compared to identify areas of workplace satisfaction that changed significantly between the survey years.

Methodology

As noted earlier, in 2006 and 2008 R&P sent out a succession planning survey to DOE employees. The purpose of these studies was to measure employee

satisfaction with aspects of their workplace and to identify the number of employees planning to leave employment with state government in the next five years because of retirement or some other reason.

Because R&P has access to data for two years, we were able to compare responses. This was accomplished in two ways. The two statistics used in this paper, the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test and the Mann-Whitney U test, are statistics that measure the differences between two sets of data (in this case, the data collected in 2006 and the data collected in 2008). Both of these statistics produce a p-value, or probability, that tells us if there are statistically significant differences between the two sets of responses. Statistical significance is a term used to describe differences that are so significant that they cannot be due simply to chance. Any p-value that is less than or equal to 0.05 is considered statistically significant and is included in this discussion.

First, workplace satisfaction responses were analyzed using the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank statistic. This statistic is used to compare matched pairs of responses, so only those people who had worked in the department in both 2006 and 2008 and had filled out both surveys were included in the analysis. In total, this included 197 employees. Seven variables showed differences that were statistically significant and will be examined later in this report. Analyzing data this way causes a control situation. If the same employee's responses change significantly during the time between surveys, it can be a way of showing whether any potential policy changes or other changes that may have been implemented during that period had any effect.

Each survey year also was treated as an independent sample so all of the survey responses in the analysis could be used, regardless of whether employees had worked for DOE in both years or filled out both surveys. Analyzing data in this manner is a way of pinpointing factors within the institution that may have changed. The response patterns of all employees should resemble the response patterns of only those who worked in the department in both years. If there are differences, it may be due to the culture of state government rather than to some definable problem within a department or agency.

In 2006 there were 255 respondents, 58 (22.3%) of whom either did not work for the department in 2008 or did not fill out a 2008 survey. In 2008 there were 245 respondents, 48 (19.6%) of whom had either not worked for the department or had not filled out a survey in 2006. In order to compare these two data sets as independent samples, R&P employed a statistical technique called the Mann-Whitney U test. When survey results were compared to each other in this manner, only three variables had statistically significant differences. These are discussed later in this report.

Matched Responses Analysis

When responses from each year were compared, seven variables had statistically significant differences or were very close to statistical significance. The first of these was the question, "My supervisor seems to care about me as a person" (see Figure 2, page 7; p=0.0551, which is not statistically significant, but close). Although a majority of respondents in 2006 (75.7%) and in 2008 (72.1%) agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, a greater percentage of employees in 2008 disagreed or strongly

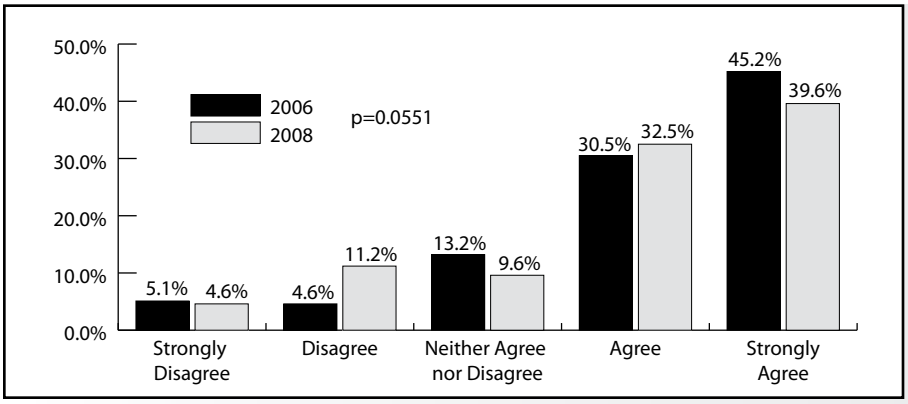


Figure 2: "My Supervisor Seems to Care About Me as a Person," 2006 and 2008, Matched Responses

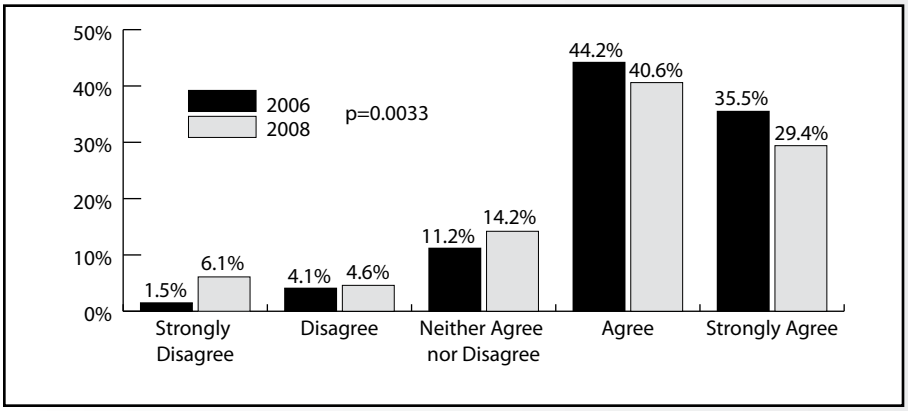


Figure 3: "Someone Other than My Supervisor Seems to Care About Me as a Person," 2006 and 2008, Matched Responses

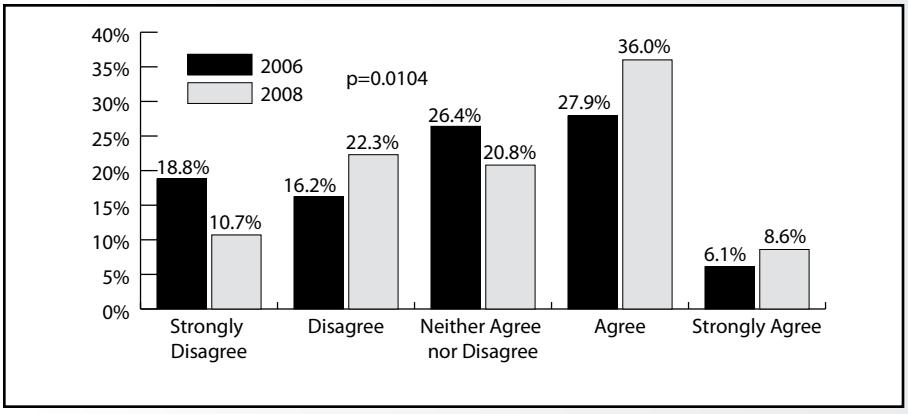


Figure 4: "In My Department We Can Speak Our Minds Without Fear of Reprisal," 2006 and 2008, Matched Responses

disagreed (15.8%) compared to 2006 (9.7%, p=0.0551).

The statement, "Someone other than my supervisor seems to care about me as a person" also had responses that had statistically significant differences between 2006 and 2008 (see Figure 3; p=0.0033). In both years the majority of DOE employees agreed or strongly agreed with the statement (79.7%, 2006; 70.0%, 2008). A greater proportion of employees disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement in 2008 (10.7%) than in 2006 (5.6%).

Respondents in both years were asked, "In my department we can speak our minds without fear of reprisal" and there were statistically significant differences in the responses for both years (see Figure 4; p=0.0104). In 2006 only 34.0% of employees agreed or strongly agreed that they could speak their minds without fear of reprisal compared to 35.0% of employees who disagreed or strongly disagreed. In 2008, a greater proportion of employees (44.6%) agreed or strongly agreed with this statement although a similar proportion (35.0%) as in 2006 disagreed or strongly disagreed. In 2006, 18.8% of employees strongly disagreed with the statement and 16.2% disagreed, but in 2008 only 10.7% strongly disagreed compared to 22.3% that simply disagreed. Not only were employees less likely to say they disagreed to any degree with the statement in 2008, it appears that those who did disagree did so to a lesser degree.

The statement, "I speak highly of this department to others" had statistically significant differences in responses for the two years (see Figure 5; p=0.0038). In 2006, only 8.1% of employees disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement while 66.0% agreed or strongly agreed. In 2008 15.2% of employees disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement compared to 57.8% that agreed or strongly agreed.

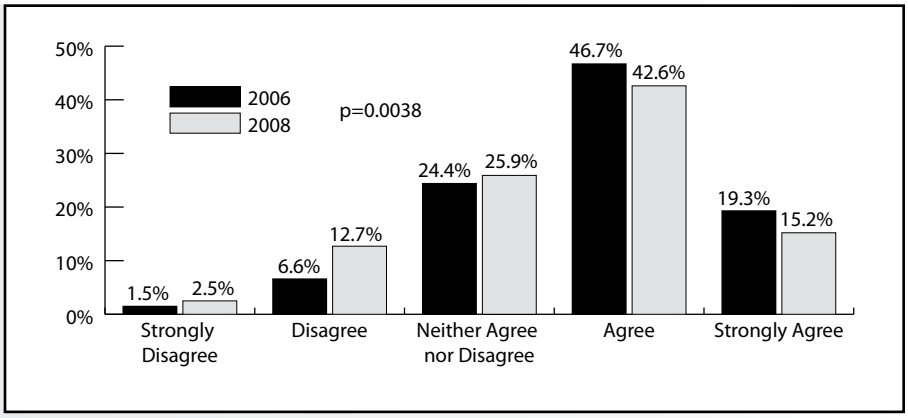


Figure 5: "I Speak Highly of this Department to Others," 2006 and 2008, Matched Responses

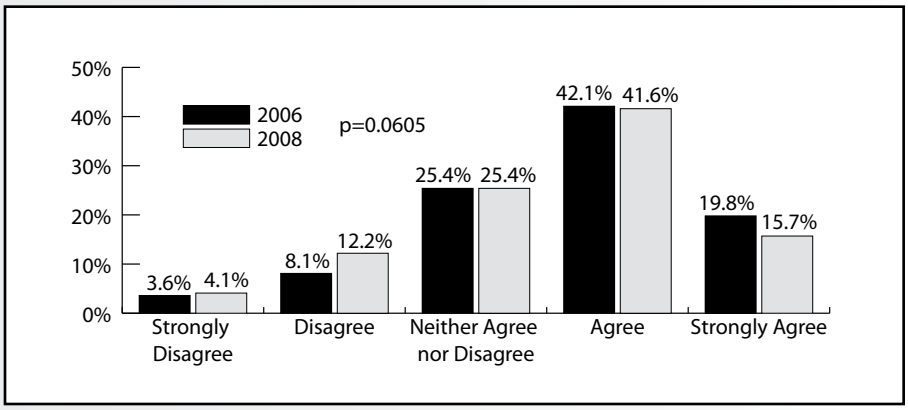


Figure 6: "I am Proud to Tell Others I am Part of this Department," 2006 and 2008, Matched Responses

Similarly, a greater proportion of employees agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "I am proud to tell people I work for this department" (see Figure 6; p=0.0605; 61.9%, 2006; 57.3%, 2008) but the number of people who disagreed or strongly disagreed increased between 2006 and 2008. In 2006 11.7% disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement and in 2008, 16.3% disagreed or strongly disagreed. Although this variable was not statistically significant at the 0.05 level, it was included because it was very close.

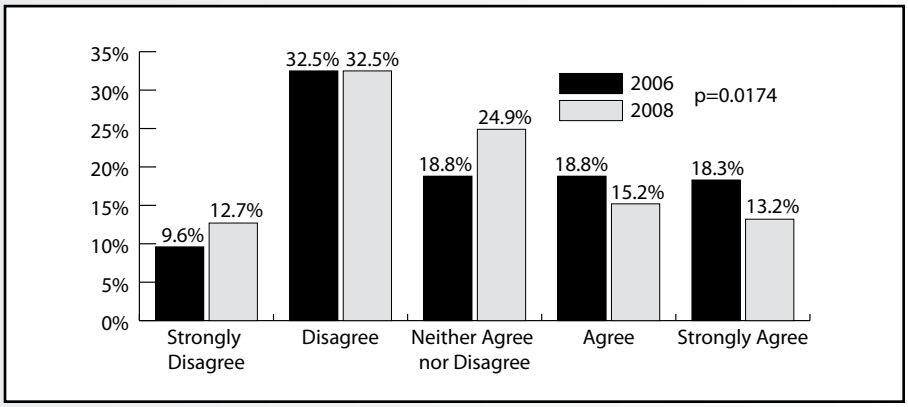


Figure 7: "I Do Not Have Enough Time to Get Everything Done at Work," 2006 and 2008, Matched Responses

In both years employees were asked to rate the statement, "I do not have enough time to get everything done at work" (see Figure 7; p=0.0174). In 2006 more employees agreed or strongly agreed (37.1%) than in 2008 (28.4%).

Finally, the last statement to have statistically significant differences when responses were compared to each

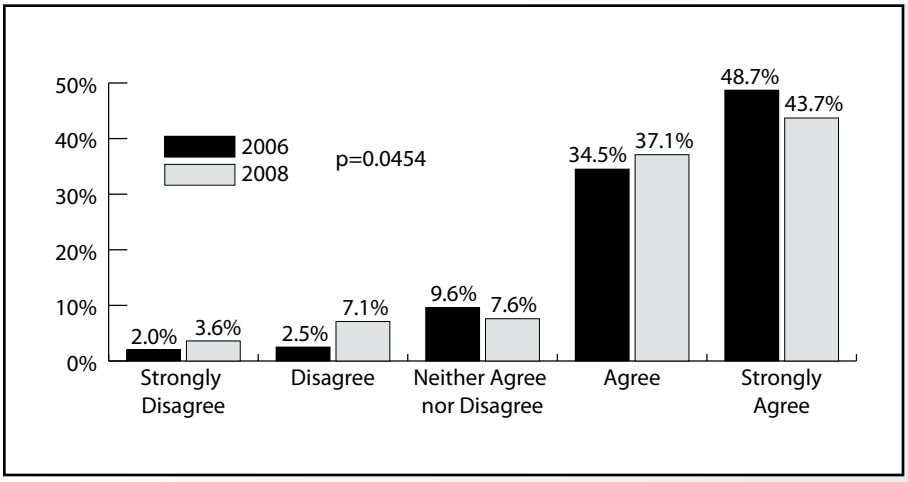


Figure 8: "Willingness to Train Co-workers for Your Job Duties," 2006 and 2008, Matched Responses

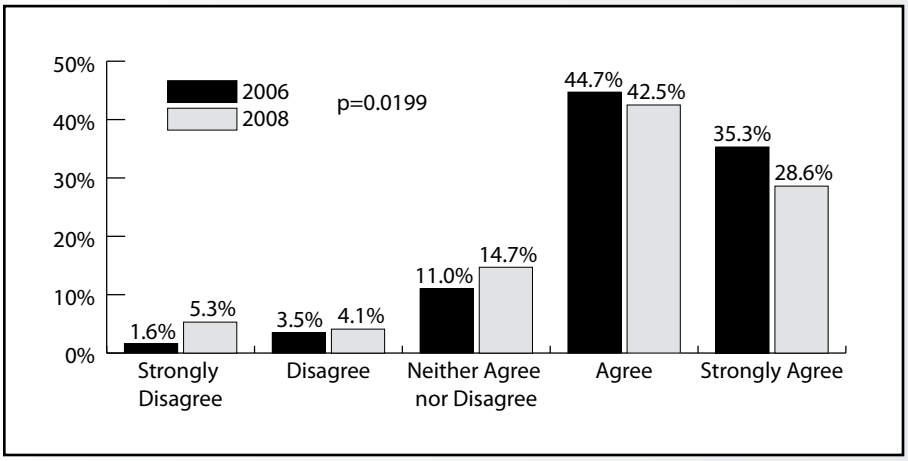


Figure 9: "Someone Other Than My Supervisor Seems to Care About Me as a Person," 2006 and 2008, Unmatched Responses

other was a question regarding willingness to train coworkers in the employee's job duties (see Figure 8; p=0.0454). In 2006 4.5% said this was unlikely or very unlikely to happen while 83.2% said it was likely or very likely. In comparison, in 2008, 10.7% said it was unlikely or very unlikely to happen and 80.8% said they would be likely or very likely to train their coworkers in their job duties.

Unmatched Samples Analysis

When all of the responses in 2006 were compared to all of the responses in 2008 as unmatched samples, only three variables had statistically significant differences. The first was, "Someone other than my supervisor seems to care about me as a person (see Figure 9; p=0.0199). A somewhat larger proportion of employees disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement in 2008 (9.4%) than in 2006 (5.1%). Overall, though, the majority of employees agreed or strongly agreed with this statement in both 2006 (80.0%) and 2008 (71.1%).

The statement, "I speak highly of this department to others" also had statistically significant differences in responses for the two years (see Figure 10, page 10; p=0.0201). In 2006 65.9% of employees agreed or strongly agreed with this statement and 8.7% disagreed or strongly disagreed. In 2008 only 55.9% of employees agreed or strongly agreed with the statement while 15.1% disagreed or strongly disagreed.

The last statement with statistically significant results was, "I do not have enough time to get everything done at work (see Figure 11; p=0.0471). A smaller proportion of employees in 2008 (27.7%) agreed or strongly agreed than in 2006 (38.4%).

Comparison of Responses by Year and Age

In order to see if there was an underlying difference in responses to these questions by age group and by whether

an employee had worked for DOE during the 2008 survey but not the 2006 survey, a chi square analysis was performed. As with the statistics used earlier in this paper, the chi square statistic is designed to identify any variable in which the responses are different for a group of people. There were no statistically significant differences in responses by age group or employment status for any of the variables discussed earlier.

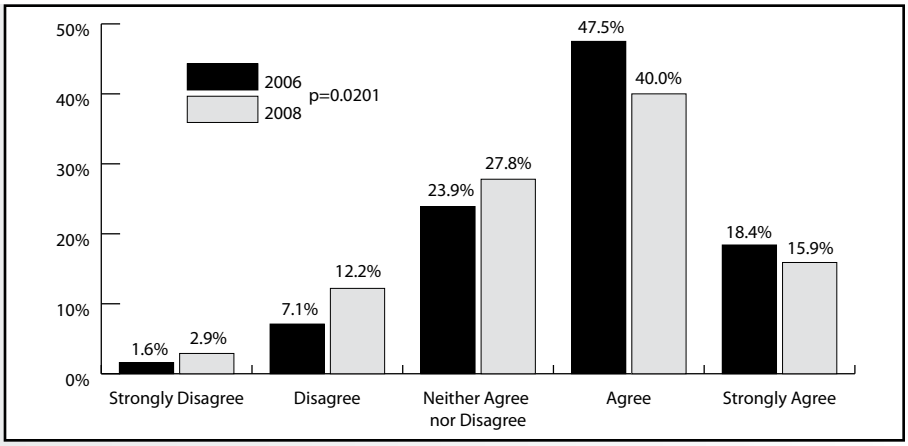


Figure 10: "I Speak Highly of this Department to Others," 2006 and 2008, Unmatched Responses

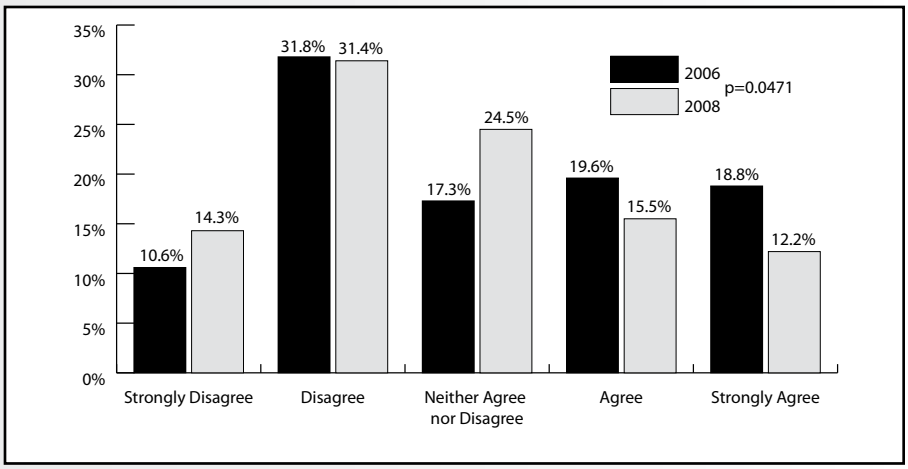


Figure 11: "I Do Not Have Enough Time to Get Everything Done at Work," 2006 and 2008, Unmatched Responses

Discussion

People's opinions and views can change over time. They may be affected by age or experience, or there may be external factors that cause opinions to change, such as pay increases or increased workloads. Surveys that take place at a single point in time are limited in what kind of information they provide because they only show how the respondents felt at that moment. The survey can be used as a baseline measure to implement change, but without a follow-up survey there is no true way of determining what type of effects the changes may have caused. Ideally, this survey should be done approximately every three years to measure the effect of policy changes and other workplace changes on employees.

The Wyoming Department of Employment is not the only employer to use a succession planning type survey to make improvements to the workplace. According to a recent memo from the United States Office of Management and Budget (2009), the federal government plans to use a similar survey to "improve recruitment, retention, and results (p. 6)." The federal government also expects all agencies to create an action plan detailing ways to improve the workplace based on employee responses.

Because R&P has data from two points in time, we were able to determine if satisfaction levels had changed in the two years between surveys. Of the 29 questions asked on the

succession planning survey regarding workplace satisfaction, only 7 had statistically significant differences when matched responses were analyzed, and only 3 had statistically significant results when all responses were compared. This indicates that, except in a couple of areas, overall workplace satisfaction did not change between the two years.

Four of the variables with statistically significant differences in the matched analysis group were related to employee interactions. In 2008 employees who had been with the department for both surveys were somewhat more likely to feel that their supervisors and other coworkers did not care about them than in 2006, and they were somewhat less likely to be willing to teach their job duties to other employees.

Also in 2008 employees who had completed both surveys seemed to be more comfortable with speaking their minds without fear of reprisal. After the 2006 survey was completed, DOE supervisors were given leadership training through their local community colleges. These courses included the essentials of leadership, coaching for success, resolving conflict, and working as a team. These courses, especially those related to handling conflict and leadership skills, were intended to help supervisors approach and work with their employees without the employees fearing for their jobs (C. Rando, personal communication, December 3, 2008).

The majority of employees in both groups said that, in 2008, they felt they had enough time to get all of their job duties done. In 2008 the state's economy was expanding, which would have lightened the workload for many DOE employees. Most likely these results would be different if the survey were given now due to the declining economy and increasing number of unemployment insurance claims received by DOE and other duties.

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U.S. Office of Management and Budget. (2009, June 11). Memorandum for the heads of departments and agencies: Planning for the President's fiscal year 2011 budget and performance plans. Retrieved December 8, 2009, from http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_fy2009/m09-20.pdf

New!

The tables for the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) for establishments, employment, total wages, and average weekly wage by size and quarter for all ownerships, private, and all government, from 2004 to first quarter 2009 are now available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/QCEW_size/toc.htm

2009 Publications from Research & Planning

Research & Planning produced a variety of reports and publications in 2009. Many are available in print, and all may be found online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI. For print copies, call (307) 473-3807 or e-mail pellsw@state.wy.us or mmoore1@state.wy.us.

Topic and Title	Description	Pages	URL
Wyoming Labor Force Trends			
January 2009 through December 2009	Monthly publication with current employment, unemployment, employment growth, unemployment insurance claims, county and regional data, special reports, and analysis of workforce topics.	300 (12 month total)	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm

Trends Issue Date	Feature Article
December 2009	Year-end Review of Wyoming's Labor Market; Comparing Results of Succession Planning Surveys
November 2009	Indicators of Wyoming's Economic Health: Part I
October 2009	Covered Employment and Wages for First Quarter 2009: Jobs and Payroll Decrease from Year-Ago Levels
September 2009	Research & Planning Downloads Top Quarter Million in 2008
August 2009	Can Wyoming Employment Be Modeled Accurately?; Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization; Measuring Job Satisfaction of Public Health Nurses in Wyoming
July 2009	Payroll Growth in Wyoming Slows from 2007Q4 to 2008Q4; Employment, Payroll Snap 21-Year Growth Streak; Quality Improvement in the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program and its Implications for Comparability Over Time
June 2009	Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Reach 22-Year High in First Quarter 2009; Benefit Payments Hit All-Time High; Research & Planning Data Reach Wide Audience: Customer Contacts, Media Coverage, and Internet Downloads for 2007
May 2009	The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2007; Excerpt: Post-Injury Wage Loss: A Quasi-Experimental Design
April 2009	Covered Employment and Wages for Third Quarter 2008: Mining Leads Growth in Jobs and Payroll
March 2009	Wyoming's New Business Formation in 2006 and 2007; Methodological Note: A Caution Regarding Employer Reports to the Current Employment Statistics Program
February 2009	Excerpt from 2008 Wyoming Job Vacancy Survey; Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims: A Historical Context
January 2009	Covered Employment and Wages for Second Quarter 2008: Slight Slowdown in Total Payroll Growth

News Releases		
Labor Force Estimates – January 2008 through December 2009	Updates on the labor force in Wyoming, including employment growth by industry as well as statewide and county unemployment rates.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news_archive.htm
Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages	Employment and payroll news by industry and county, updated quarterly.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/QCEW/toc.htm
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses	Wyoming occupational fatality rates by industry.	http://www.doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI_08/2008_cfoi_newsrelease.pdf
Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses	Nonfatal work-related injuries and illnesses, including incidence rates by industry.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/OSH_08/News_release_08.pdf

Table continued on page 12

Table continued from page 13

Topic and Title	Description	Pages	URL
Projections			
A Closer Look at Occupational Projections for Wyoming, 2006-2016	Projections for Wyoming employment by industry and occupation for 2006 to 2016, including economic context and statewide and regional projections.	28	http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/occ_proj_06_16/enhanced_occ_proj_06_16.pdf
Wages and Benefits			
Wyoming Benefits Survey 2009	Examination of statewide benefits by employer size, full- or part-time employment, and types of benefits.	24	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits09/benefits09.pdf
Annual Report			
Wyoming Workforce Annual Report 2009	An overview of the Wyoming labor market situation in 2008.	24	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/anual_report_09.pdf
Nurses in Wyoming			
Public Health Nursing: Succession Planning and Satisfaction Measures in Public Health	Examination of the state of public health nurses in Wyoming.	28	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/phn_09/PHN.pdf
Special Reports			
Post-Injury Wage Loss: A Quasi-Experimental Design	A report on the impact that workplace injury and illness have on wage loss.	50	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/post_injury/report.pdf

Occupation Spotlight

There are an estimated 6,270 workers in Wyoming who are classified as truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer.

According to the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, these truck drivers earn a mean wage of $18.59 per hour across the state, with an average entry wage of $13.89 per hour. Those in the 90th percentile in this occupation earn as much as $25.05 per hour.

According to the most recent data, Uinta County had the highest mean wage for truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer, at $23.34 per hour, with an estimated 240 people employed in this particular occupation.

Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer

Wage data for specific occupations is available online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm. Click on the "County and Regional Wages (estimates for Wyoming wages for September 2009)" link. From there you can select statewide or county-specific data on different occupations in Wyoming.

Wyoming Earnings by Age, Gender, Industry, and County

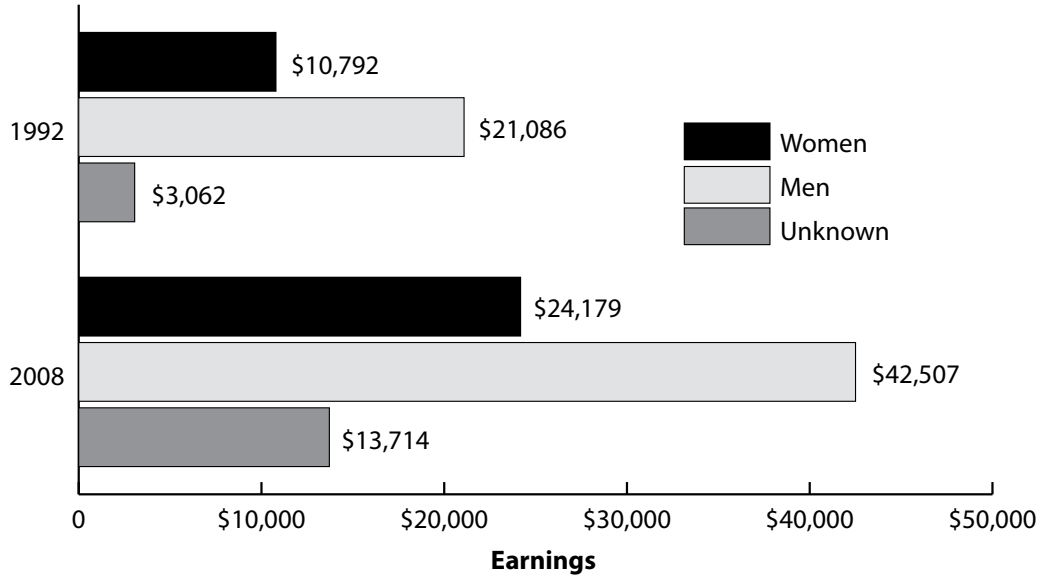
Now online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables/county.htm

Information on earnings within age, gender, industry, and county categories is now available online from Research & Planning. These data were collected using a variety of methods, including the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Current Employment Statistics (CES), Unemployment Insurance (UI) Wage Records, and driver's license records.

These figures were constructed using a sample of the information available online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables/county.htm.

Figure 1 shows that in 1992, women earned an average annual wage of $10,792 and accounted for 42.8% of Wyoming's workforce. Men, on the other hand, earned an average wage of $21,086 and accounted for 47.4% of the state's workforce. Note that the gender of an additional 9.8% of Wyoming's workforce is unknown because of missing demographic data.

By 2008, women earned an average annual wage of $24,179 while accounting for 36.6% of the workforce. The average wage for men in 2008 increased to $42,507, while they made up 43.5% of the workforce. Note, however, that the gender of the remaining 19.9% of the workforce is unknown because of missing demographic data. These data also indicate that the average annual wage for women increased at a greater rate from 1992 to 2008 (124.05%) than the average annual wage for men (101.59%).



Data for persons working at any time during the year, based on the two-digit NAICS coded industry in which the person made the most money in the year.
Unknown represents missing demographic data.

Figure 1: **Average Annual Wage by Gender for All Industries in Wyoming**

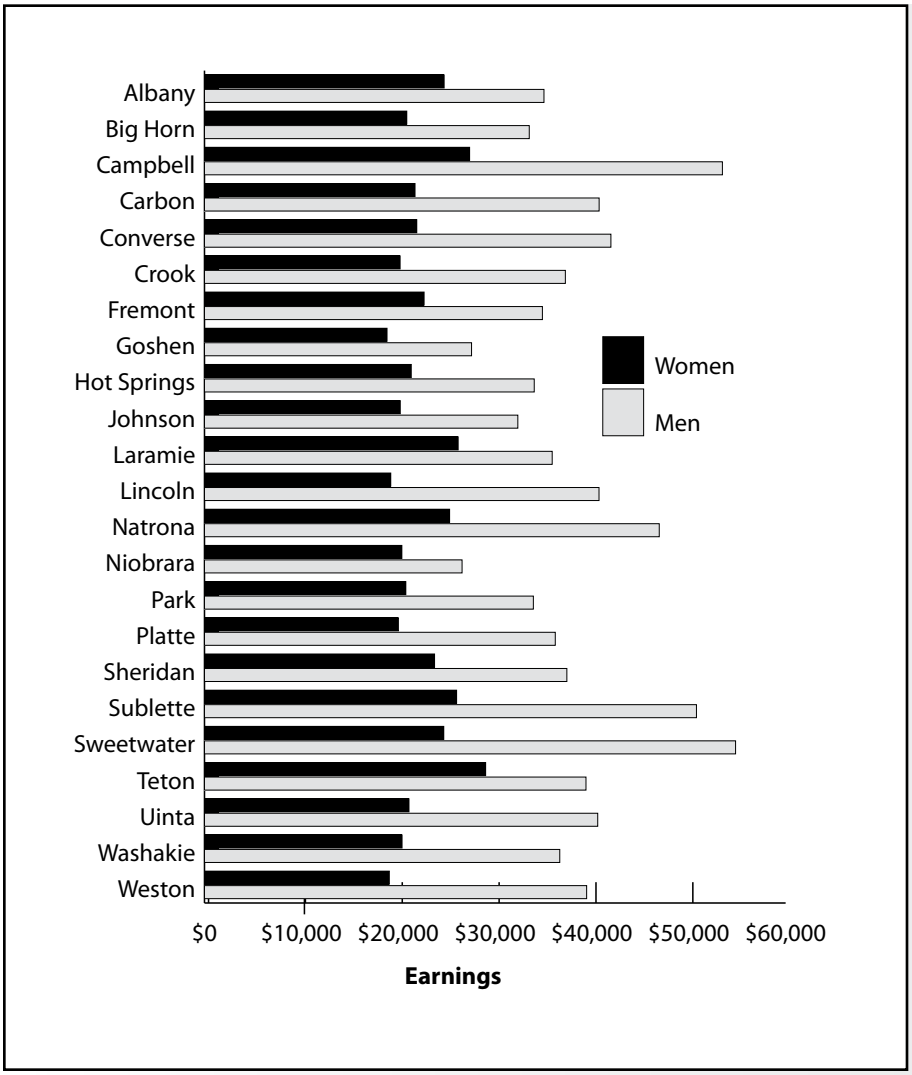


Figure 2: **2008 Average Annual Wage for Wyoming by County and Gender**

Figure 2 shows the average annual wage for men and women in Wyoming by county in 2008. Sweetwater County ($54,831) had the highest average annual wage for men, followed by Campbell County ($53,471). Teton County ($29,027) had the highest average annual wage for women, followed by Campbell County ($27,372).

Figure 3 shows the distribution of employees by age group in the educational services industry, which had an older population of workers than any other industry in 2008. In 1992 workers in the 35-44 age range accounted for 34.3% of all employees in this industry. In 2008 that percentage had decreased to 18.9%. By 2008 52.0% of all educational services employees were 45 or older, compared to 34.8% in 1992.

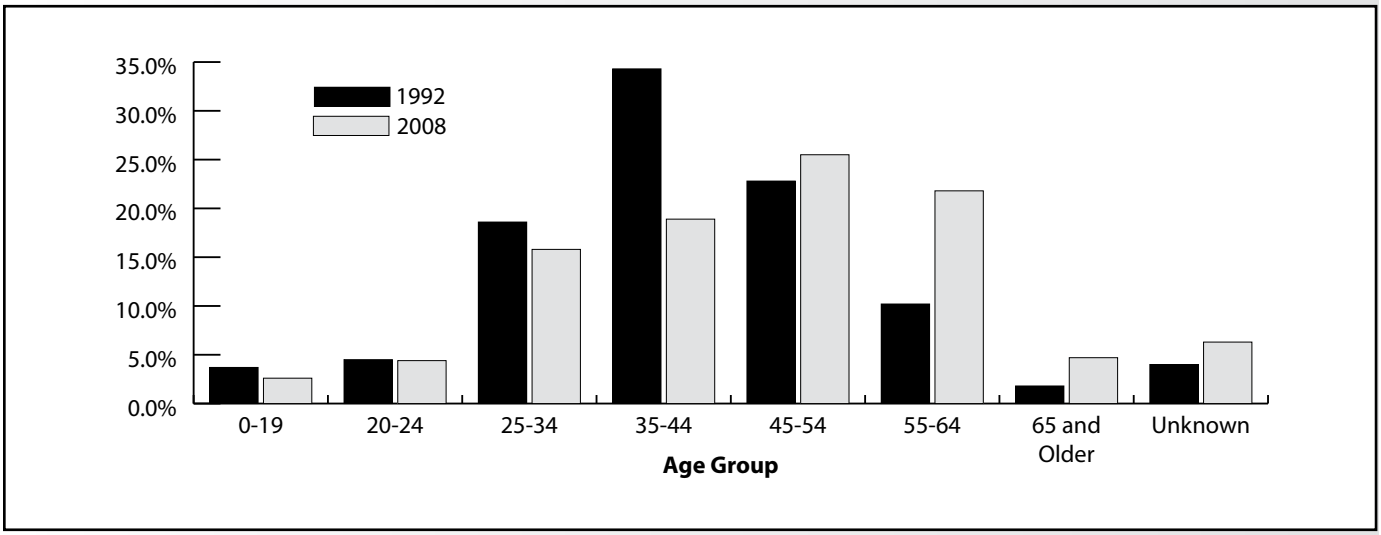


Figure 3: **Employment by Age Group in the Educational Services Industry in Wyoming**

Green Jobs Study Group Final Report Available Online

In March 2009 the Workforce Informaction Council (WIC) chartered the Green Jobs Study Group to define green jobs and identify what needs to be measured relating to green jobs, to develop alternative methods of measuring green jobs, and to develop an action plan.

The final report of the Green Jobs Study Group, titled "Measurement and Analysis of Employment in the Green Economy," is now available online at http://www.workforceinfocouncil.org/Documents/WICGreenJobsStudyGroupReport-2009-10-01t.pdf.

Wyoming Unemployment Rate Increases to 7.4% in October

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning Section of the Wyoming Department of Employment has reported that the state's seasonally adjusted[1] unemployment rate increased from 6.8% in September to 7.4% in October. Despite this increase, Wyoming's unemployment rate was considerably lower than the U.S. rate of 10.2%. The state's unemployment rate has increased in 10 of the last 11 months. Over-the-year nonagricultural wage and salary job losses in Wyoming (-5.5%) were larger than U.S. job losses (-4.0%).

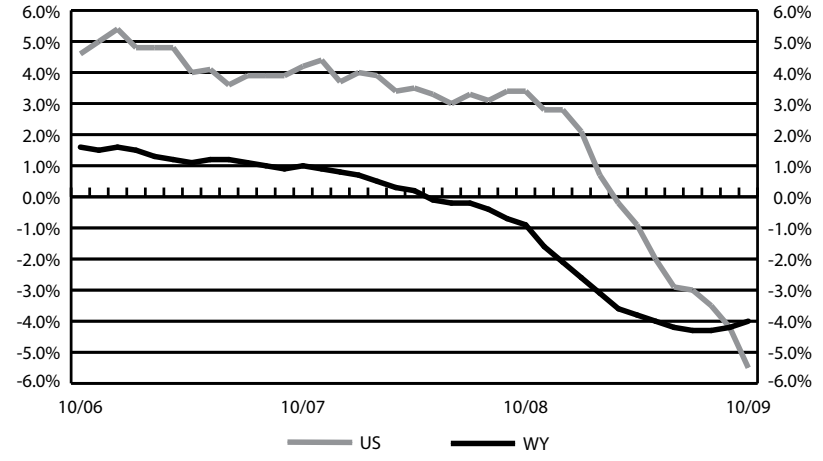
Over the year, Wyoming nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased by 16,600 jobs, or 5.5%. More than half of the job losses were from two sectors: natural resources & mining (-6,000 jobs, or -19.8%) and construction (-5,000 jobs, or -16.8%). Employment also decreased in leisure & hospitality (-2,000 jobs, or -6.0%), retail trade (-1,600 jobs, or -4.9%), professional & business services (-800 jobs, or -4.3%), other services (-700 jobs, or -5.7%), financial activities (-500 jobs, or -4.3%), and transportation & utilities (-500 jobs, or -3.4%). Job gains were seen in government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals; 600 jobs, or 0.8%) and educational & health services (100 jobs, or 0.4%).

From September to October, employment decreased by 5,900 jobs, or 2.0%. This is larger than the normal seasonal decrease of approximately 2,200 jobs, or 0.8%. Seasonal job losses were seen in construction (-800 jobs, or -3.1%), retail trade (-900 jobs, or -2.8%), professional & business services (-500 jobs, or -2.7%), and leisure & hospitality (-3,800 jobs, or -10.7%). Employment increased by 600 jobs, or 0.8% in government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals).

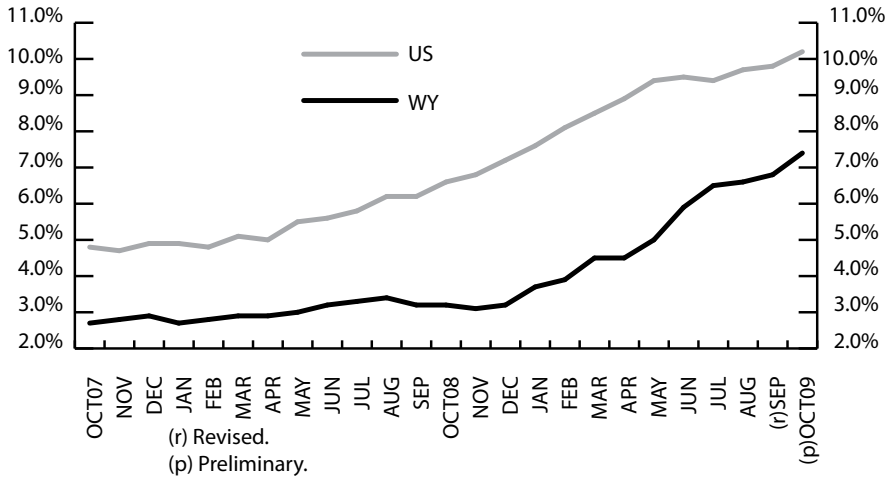
Most county unemployment rates increased from September to October and all were higher than their year-ago levels. The highest unemployment rates were found in Big Horn (8.2%), Teton (8.1%), and Fremont (7.9%) counties. Albany County posted the lowest unemployment rate (4.3%), followed by Sublette (4.7%) and Niobrara (5.2%) counties.

[1] Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series in order to obtain a better understanding of changes in economic conditions from month to month.

Nonagricultural Employment Growth
(Percentage Change Over Previous Year)

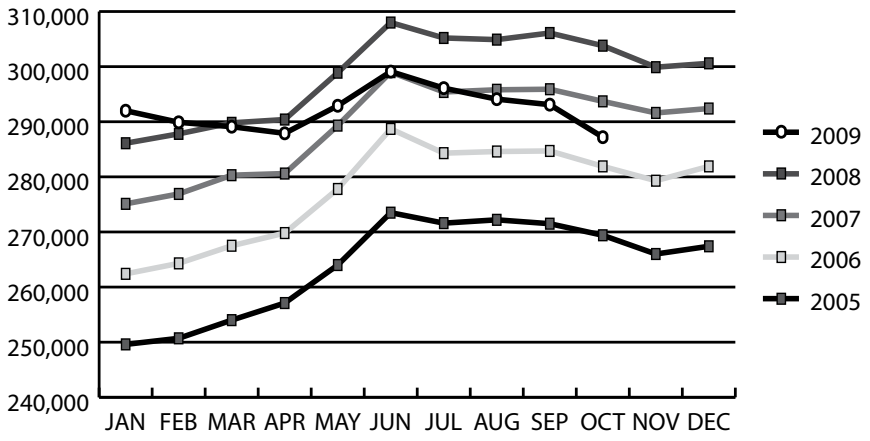


Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate (Percentage)



(r) Revised.
(p) Preliminary.

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



State Unemployment Rates
October 2009
(Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	15.6
Michigan	15.1
Nevada	13.0
Rhode Island	12.9
California	12.5
South Carolina	12.1
District of Columbia	11.9
Oregon	11.3
Florida	11.2
Kentucky	11.2
Illinois	11.0
North Carolina	11.0
Alabama	10.9
Ohio	10.5
Tennessee	10.5
Georgia	10.2
United States	**10.2**
Indiana	9.8
Mississippi	9.8
New Jersey	9.7
Arizona	9.3
Missouri	9.3
Washington	9.3
Idaho	9.0
New York	9.0
Alaska	8.9
Massachusetts	8.9
Connecticut	8.8
Pennsylvania	8.8
Delaware	8.7
West Virginia	8.5
Wisconsin	8.4
Texas	8.3
Maine	8.2
New Mexico	7.9
Arkansas	7.6
Minnesota	7.6
Louisiana	7.4
Wyoming	**7.4**
Maryland	7.3
Hawaii	7.2
Oklahoma	7.1
Colorado	6.9
Kansas	6.8
New Hampshire	6.8
Iowa	6.7
Virginia	6.6
Utah	6.5
Vermont	6.5
Montana	6.4
South Dakota	5.0
Nebraska	4.9
North Dakota	4.2

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

More than half of the over-the-year job losses were from two sectors: natural resources & mining (-6,000 jobs, or -19.8%) and construction (-5,000 jobs, or -16.8%).

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 09(p)	Sep 09(r)	Oct 08	Sep 09 Oct 09	Oct 08 Oct 09
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**287.2**	**293.1**	**303.8**	**-2.0**	**-5.5**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**214.7**	**221.2**	**231.9**	**-2.9**	**-7.4**
GOODS PRODUCING	**59.0**	**59.7**	**70.2**	**-1.2**	**-16.0**
Natural Resources & Mining	24.3	24.3	30.3	0.0	-19.8
Mining	24.2	24.2	30.2	0.0	-19.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.1	4.1	4.5	0.0	-8.9
Mining Except Oil & Gas	9.8	9.8	9.9	0.0	-1.0
Coal Mining	7.2	7.2	6.9	0.0	4.3
Support Activities for Mining	10.3	10.3	15.8	0.0	-34.8
Support Act. for Oil & Gas	8.5	9.0	11.4	-5.6	-25.4
Construction	24.8	25.6	29.8	-3.1	-16.8
Construction of Buildings	3.9	4.1	4.9	-4.9	-20.4
Heavy & Engineering Constr.	9.6	9.7	10.2	-1.0	-5.9
Specialty Trade Contractors	11.3	11.8	14.7	-4.2	-23.1
Manufacturing	9.9	9.8	10.1	1.0	-2.0
Durable Goods	5.0	5.1	5.2	-2.0	-3.8
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.3	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**228.2**	**233.4**	**233.6**	**-2.2**	**-2.3**
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	54.2	55.4	56.3	-2.2	-3.7
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.2	9.1	-1.1	0.0
Merch. Wholesalers, Durable	5.9	6.0	5.9	-1.7	0.0
Retail Trade	30.8	31.7	32.4	-2.8	-4.9
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.3	4.3	4.5	0.0	-4.4
Food & Beverage Stores	4.6	4.6	4.7	0.0	-2.1
Grocery Stores	3.9	4.0	4.0	-2.5	-2.5
Gasoline Stations	4.1	4.2	4.1	-2.4	0.0
General Merchandise Stores	6.6	6.8	6.8	-2.9	-2.9
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.8	2.0	1.9	-10.0	-5.3
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	14.3	14.5	14.8	-1.4	-3.4
Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Transp. & Warehousing	11.8	12.0	12.3	-1.7	-4.1
Truck Transportation	4.4	4.5	4.6	-2.2	-4.3
Information	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	11.2	11.3	11.7	-0.9	-4.3
Finance & Insurance	7.1	7.1	7.3	0.0	-2.7
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4.1	4.2	4.4	-2.4	-6.8
Professional & Business Services	18.0	18.5	18.8	-2.7	-4.3
Prof., Scientific, & Tech. Services	9.8	9.9	9.9	-1.0	-1.0
Architect., Engineering, & Rel.	3.0	3.1	3.1	-3.2	-3.2
Mgmt. of Co.s & Enterprises	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	-12.5
Admin., Support, & Waste Svcs.	7.5	7.9	8.1	-5.1	-7.4
Educational & Health Services	25.1	25.1	25.0	0.0	0.4
Educational Services	2.4	2.4	2.6	0.0	-7.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	22.7	22.7	22.4	0.0	1.3
Ambulatory Health Care	8.4	8.4	8.3	0.0	1.2
Offices of Physicians	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-3.1
Hospitals	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
Nursing & Res. Care Facilities	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	2.2
Social Assistance	6.4	6.4	6.3	0.0	1.6
Leisure & Hospitality	31.6	35.4	33.6	-10.7	-6.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	2.6	3.0	2.9	-13.3	-10.3
Accommodation & Food Svcs.	29.0	32.4	30.7	-10.5	-5.5
Accommodation	10.4	13.2	11.2	-21.2	-7.1
Food Svcs. & Drinking Places	18.6	19.2	19.5	-3.1	-4.6
Other Services	11.6	11.8	12.3	-1.7	-5.7
Repair & Maintenance	4.0	4.1	4.1	-2.4	-2.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	**72.5**	**71.9**	**71.9**	**0.8**	**0.8**
Federal Government	7.9	8.1	7.4	-2.5	6.8
State Government	16.5	16.8	16.7	-1.8	-1.2
State Government Education	7.3	7.4	7.5	-1.4	-2.7
Local Government	48.1	47.0	47.8	2.3	0.6
Local Government Education	25.1	23.8	24.9	5.5	0.8
Hospitals	6.6	6.5	6.5	1.5	1.5

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 09(p)	Sep 09(r)	Oct 08	Sep 09 Oct 09	Oct 08 Oct 09
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**44.3**	**44.5**	**45.6**	**-0.4**	**-2.9**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**30.4**	**30.7**	**31.8**	**-1.0**	**-4.4**
GOODS PRODUCING	**4.5**	**4.6**	**5.0**	**-2.2**	**-10.0**
Natural Res., Mining, & Const.	3.0	3.1	3.3	-3.2	-9.1
Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.7	0.0	-11.8
SERVICE PROVIDING	**39.8**	**39.9**	**40.6**	**-0.3**	**-2.0**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9.2	9.3	9.8	-1.1	-6.1
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-11.1
Retail Trade	5.3	5.4	5.7	-1.9	-7.0
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-3.1
Information	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	2.2	2.1	2.2	4.8	0.0
Professional & Business Services	3.2	3.2	3.4	0.0	-5.9
Educational & Health Services	4.1	4.1	4.0	0.0	2.5
Leisure & Hospitality	4.4	4.6	4.6	-4.3	-4.3
Other Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	**13.9**	**13.8**	**13.8**	**0.7**	**0.7**
Federal Government	2.7	2.7	2.6	0.0	3.8
State Government	4.0	4.0	4.1	0.0	-2.4
Local Government	7.2	7.1	7.1	1.4	1.4
Local Education	3.8	3.7	3.6	2.7	5.6
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**39.7**	**39.4**	**41.8**	**0.8**	**-5.0**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**33.1**	**33.2**	**35.5**	**-0.3**	**-6.8**
GOODS PRODUCING	**7.4**	**7.4**	**8.7**	**0.0**	**-14.9**
Natural Resources & Mining	3.0	3.0	3.8	0.0	-21.1
Construction	2.8	2.8	3.0	0.0	-6.7
Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.9	0.0	-15.8
SERVICE PROVIDING	**32.3**	**32.0**	**33.1**	**0.9**	**-2.4**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.7	8.7	9.4	0.0	-7.4
Wholesale Trade	2.5	2.5	2.8	0.0	-10.7
Retail Trade	5.1	5.1	5.5	0.0	-7.3
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Information	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	2.8	2.8	2.9	0.0	-3.4
Educational & Health Services	5.5	5.5	5.4	0.0	1.9
Leisure & Hospitality	4.0	4.1	4.3	-2.4	-7.0
Other Services	2.2	2.2	2.3	0.0	-4.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	**6.6**	**6.2**	**6.3**	**6.5**	**4.8**
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Local Government	5.2	4.8	4.9	8.3	6.1
Local Education	3.6	3.1	3.5	16.1	2.9

Note: Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week that includes the 12th of the month. Self-employed, domestic services, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. Data are not seasonally adjusted. Wyoming, Laramie County, and Natrona County are published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised.

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 09	Sep 09	Oct 08	Sep 09 Oct 09	Oct 08 Oct 09
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**30.2**	**30.0**	**30.8**	**0.7**	**-1.9**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**25.8**	**25.8**	**26.5**	**0.0**	**-2.6**
GOODS PRODUCING	**13.0**	**13.0**	**13.6**	**0.0**	**-4.4**
Natural Resources & Mining	8.1	8.1	8.5	0.0	-4.7
Construction	4.3	4.3	4.5	0.0	-4.4
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**17.2**	**17.0**	**17.2**	**1.2**	**0.0**
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.7	5.7	5.6	0.0	1.8
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	-12.5
Professional & Bus. Services	1.9	1.9	2.1	0.0	-9.5
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0
Other Services	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.0	9.1
GOVERNMENT	**4.4**	**4.2**	**4.3**	**4.8**	**2.3**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 09	Sep 09	Oct 08	Sep 09 Oct 09	Oct 08 Oct 09
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**24.6**	**24.4**	**26.6**	**0.8**	**-7.5**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**19.9**	**19.8**	**22.0**	**0.5**	**-9.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	**8.5**	**8.5**	**9.9**	**0.0**	**-14.1**
Natural Resources & Mining	5.1	5.1	6.2	0.0	-17.7
Construction	2.1	2.1	2.4	0.0	-12.5
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**16.1**	**15.9**	**16.7**	**1.3**	**-3.6**
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.2	5.1	5.4	2.0	-3.7
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	-10.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.0	-16.7
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.4	2.5	0.0	-4.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	-12.5
GOVERNMENT	**4.7**	**4.6**	**4.6**	**2.2**	**2.2**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 09	Sep 09	Oct 08	Sep 09 Oct 09	Oct 08 Oct 09
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**16.3**	**18.7**	**18.1**	**-12.8**	**-9.9**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**14.0**	**16.3**	**15.9**	**-14.1**	**-11.9**
GOODS PRODUCING	**2.4**	**2.4**	**2.8**	**0.0**	**-14.3**
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	2.2	2.2	2.6	0.0	-15.4
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**13.9**	**16.3**	**15.3**	**-14.7**	**-9.2**
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.1	2.5	2.5	-16.0	-16.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	-10.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.7	1.7	1.9	0.0	-10.5
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	5.3	7.2	6.1	-26.4	-13.1
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**2.3**	**2.4**	**2.2**	**-4.2**	**4.5**

State Unemployment Rates October 2009 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	15.9
Michigan	14.3
Nevada	12.6
California	12.3
Rhode Island	12.2
District of Columbia	12.1
South Carolina	12.1
Florida	11.2
Alabama	10.7
Kentucky	10.7
North Carolina	10.7
Oregon	10.7
Illinois	10.5
Georgia	10.2
Tennessee	10.2
Ohio	10.0
Mississippi	9.5
United States	**9.5**
Arizona	9.4
Indiana	9.4
New Jersey	9.3
Missouri	8.9
Washington	8.8
New York	8.7
Delaware	8.5
Massachusetts	8.4
Pennsylvania	8.4
Alaska	8.3
Connecticut	8.3
Idaho	8.3
Texas	8.1
West Virginia	7.7
Maine	7.6
Wisconsin	7.6
New Mexico	7.5
Maryland	7.2
Hawaii	7.1
Louisiana	7.1
Oklahoma	7.0
Arkansas	6.9
Minnesota	6.9
Wyoming	**6.9**
Colorado	6.6
New Hampshire	6.5
Kansas	6.4
Utah	6.3
Virginia	6.3
Iowa	6.2
Montana	5.9
Vermont	5.9
South Dakota	4.5
Nebraska	4.4
North Dakota	3.2

Economic Indicators

by: Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist

The average weekly benefit payment from Wyoming Unemployment Insurance increased by 11.0% from October 2008 to October 2009.

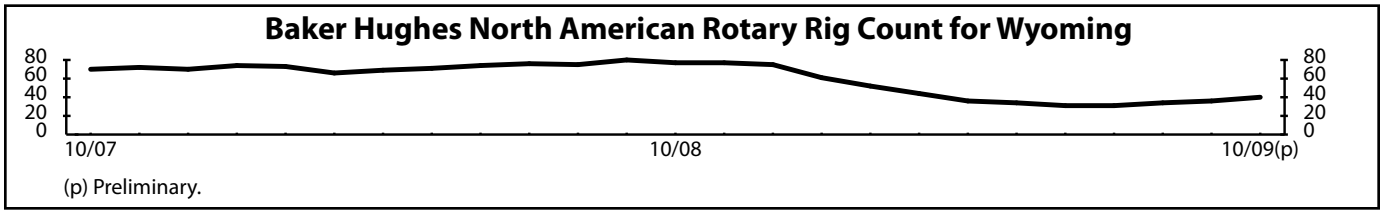
	Oct 2009 (p)	Sep 2009 (r)	Oct 2008 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force[1]	**292,154**	**292,513**	**293,921**	**-0.1**	**-0.6**
Unemployed	20,046	18,228	7,885	10.0	154.2
Employed	272,108	274,285	286,036	-0.8	-4.9
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	6.9%/7.4%	6.2%/6.8%	2.7%/3.2%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	9.5%/10.2%	9.5%/9.8%	6.1%/6.5%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,224,000	7,098,000	7,817,000	1.8	-7.6
As a percent of all workers	5.2%	5.1%	5.4%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	808,000	706,000	484,000	14.4	66.9
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	8,474,000	8,255,000	6,267,000	2.7	35.2
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	$834.40	$844.83	$879.84	-1.2	-5.2
Average Weekly Hours	40.0	40.5	42.3	-1.2	-5.4
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	$739.72	$736.40	$726.90	0.5	1.8
Average Weekly Hours	40.4	40.0	40.7	1.0	-0.7
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	32,019	37,687	9,607	-15.0	233.3
Benefits Paid	$11,097,512	$13,341,108	$3,000,886	-16.8	269.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$346.59	$354.00	$312.36	-2.1	11.0
State Insured Covered Jobs[1]	281,871	284,585	275,927	-1.0	2.2
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.6%	2.6%	0.8%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	216.2	216.0	216.6	0.1	-0.2
Food & Beverages	218.0	217.6	218.7	0.2	-0.3
Housing	216.6	217.2	217.4	-0.3	-0.4
Apparel	124.0	122.5	122.2	1.2	1.4
Transportation	185.4	183.9	192.7	0.8	-3.8
Medical Care	378.6	377.7	365.7	0.2	3.5
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	114.2	114.6	114.2	-0.4	0.0
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	129.1	129.0	125.7	0.1	2.7
Other Goods & Services	375.4	374.2	349.3	0.3	7.5
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	175.3	174.6	186.4	0.4	-6.0
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	96	146	234	-34.2	-59.0
Valuation	$15,633,000	$34,400,000	$31,062,000	-54.6	-49.7
Single Family Homes	88	122	187	-27.9	-52.9
Valuation	$15,373,000	$28,541,000	$28,605,000	-46.1	-46.3
Casper MSA[2] Building Permits	12	16	37	-25.0	-67.6
Valuation	$1,764,000	$2,026,000	$3,028,000	-12.9	-41.7
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	14	15	5	-6.7	180.0
Valuation	$1,637,000	$1,707,000	$796,000	-4.1	105.7
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	40	36	77	11.1	-48.1

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

[1]Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

[2]Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Hours and earnings data for mining have been dropped from the Economics Indicators page as data for Wyoming mining are no longer available.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Albany County posted the lowest unemployment rate (4.3%), followed by Sublette (4.7%) and Niobrara (5.2%) counties.

	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
REGION County	Oct 2009 (p)	Sep 2009 (r)	Oct 2008 (b)	Oct 2009 (p)	Sep 2009 (r)	Oct 2008 (b)	Oct 2009 (p)	Sep 2009 (r)	Oct 2008 (b)	Oct 2009 (p)	Sep 2009 (r)	Oct 2008 (b)
NORTHWEST	**44,035**	**44,761**	**44,354**	**40,847**	**41,844**	**42,982**	**3,188**	**2,917**	**1,372**	**7.2**	**6.5**	**3.1**
Big Horn	4,774	4,804	5,045	4,383	4,405	4,886	391	399	159	8.2	8.3	3.2
Fremont	18,719	18,777	18,297	17,246	17,400	17,680	1,473	1,377	617	7.9	7.3	3.4
Hot Springs	2,370	2,375	2,404	2,212	2,239	2,331	158	136	73	6.7	5.7	3.0
Park	13,819	14,504	14,183	12,911	13,747	13,773	908	757	410	6.6	5.2	2.9
Washakie	4,353	4,301	4,425	4,095	4,053	4,312	258	248	113	5.9	5.8	2.6
NORTHEAST	**55,140**	**54,764**	**54,286**	**51,504**	**51,477**	**53,051**	**3,636**	**3,287**	**1,235**	**6.6**	**6.0**	**2.3**
Campbell	28,686	28,221	27,402	26,924	26,625	26,909	1,762	1,596	493	6.1	5.7	1.8
Crook	3,388	3,430	3,454	3,186	3,262	3,356	202	168	98	6.0	4.9	2.8
Johnson	3,804	3,896	4,112	3,518	3,626	3,981	286	270	131	7.5	6.9	3.2
Sheridan	16,084	16,033	16,087	14,905	14,967	15,676	1,179	1,066	411	7.3	6.6	2.6
Weston	3,178	3,184	3,231	2,971	2,997	3,129	207	187	102	6.5	5.9	3.2
SOUTHWEST	**62,909**	**64,274**	**65,308**	**58,315**	**60,084**	**63,741**	**4,594**	**4,190**	**1,567**	**7.3**	**6.5**	**2.4**
Lincoln	8,123	8,270	8,077	7,493	7,712	7,829	630	558	248	7.8	6.7	3.1
Sublette	6,752	6,868	7,162	6,435	6,540	7,053	317	328	109	4.7	4.8	1.5
Sweetwater	23,838	23,613	24,339	22,088	21,883	23,808	1,750	1,730	531	7.3	7.3	2.2
Teton	13,051	14,281	13,907	11,994	13,540	13,538	1,057	741	369	8.1	5.2	2.7
Uinta	11,145	11,242	11,823	10,305	10,409	11,513	840	833	310	7.5	7.4	2.6
SOUTHEAST	**74,148**	**73,291**	**73,497**	**69,574**	**69,344**	**71,255**	**4,574**	**3,947**	**2,242**	**6.2**	**5.4**	**3.1**
Albany	20,245	20,013	19,833	19,379	19,310	19,391	866	703	442	4.3	3.5	2.2
Goshen	6,184	5,983	6,165	5,851	5,671	5,984	333	312	181	5.4	5.2	2.9
Laramie	42,565	42,022	42,439	39,509	39,390	41,001	3,056	2,632	1,438	7.2	6.3	3.4
Niobrara	1,208	1,237	1,229	1,145	1,182	1,187	63	55	42	5.2	4.4	3.4
Platte	3,946	4,036	3,831	3,690	3,791	3,692	256	245	139	6.5	6.1	3.6
CENTRAL	**55,919**	**55,426**	**56,476**	**51,866**	**51,539**	**55,007**	**4,053**	**3,887**	**1,469**	**7.2**	**7.0**	**2.6**
Carbon	7,650	7,723	8,159	7,104	7,186	7,898	546	537	261	7.1	7.0	3.2
Converse	7,387	7,349	7,407	6,940	6,921	7,220	447	428	187	6.1	5.8	2.5
Natrona	40,882	40,354	40,910	37,822	37,432	39,889	3,060	2,922	1,021	7.5	7.2	2.5
STATEWIDE	**292,154**	**292,513**	**293,921**	**272,108**	**274,285**	**286,036**	**20,046**	**18,228**	**7,885**	**6.9**	**6.2**	**2.7**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										7.4	6.8	3.2
U.S.										9.5	9.5	6.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										10.2	9.8	6.5

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2009. Run Date 11/2009.

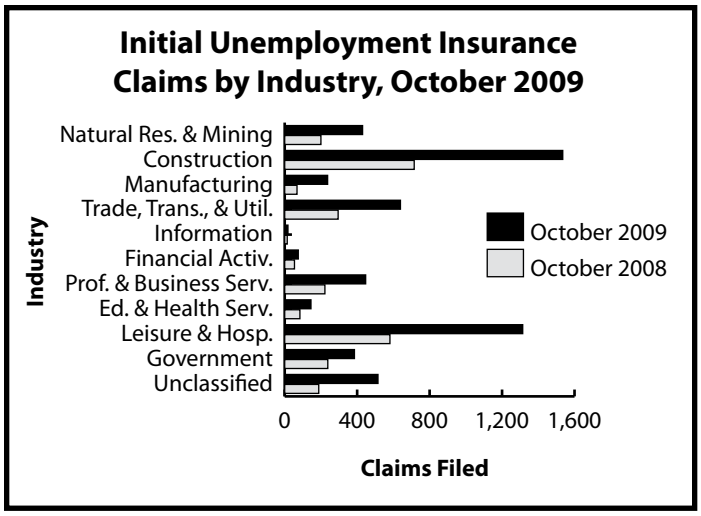
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

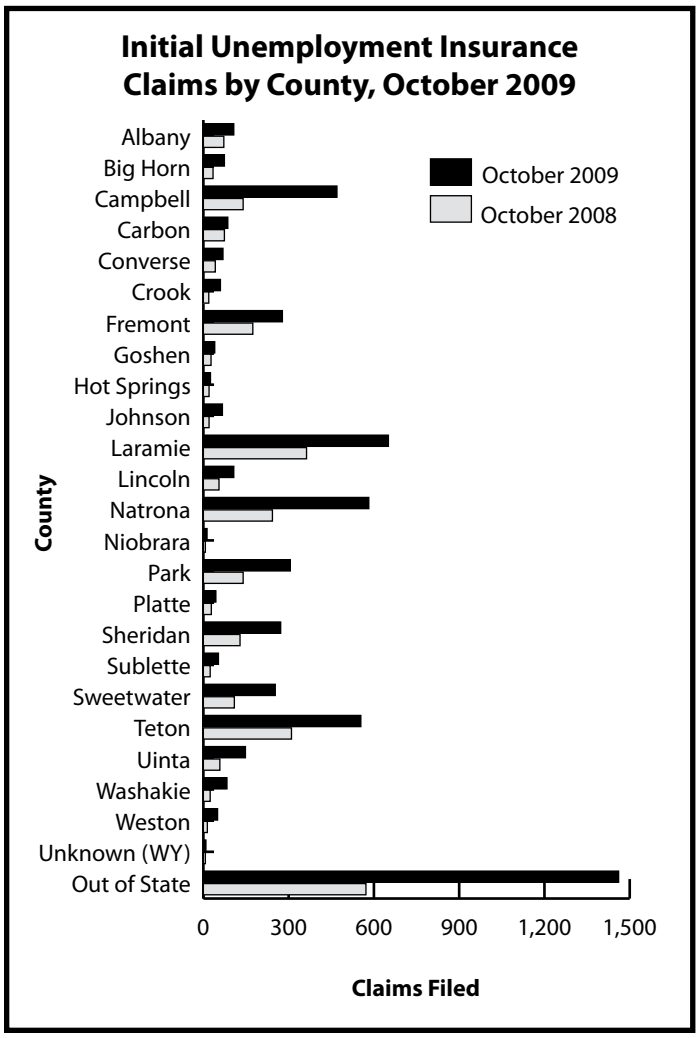
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

Initial claims increased 75.7% from September and 116.7% compared to a year ago. The over-the-month percentage increase was slightly less than the 11-year average.





Initial Claims

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Oct 09	Sep 09	Oct 08	Oct 09 Sep 09	Oct 09 Oct 08
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**5,863**	**3,337**	**2,706**	**75.7**	**116.7**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,202	1,229	983	79.2	124.0
Natural Res. & Mining	430	315	200	36.5	115.0
Mining	383	302	187	26.8	104.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	15	22	18	-31.8	-16.7
Construction	1,535	794	715	93.3	114.7
Manufacturing	237	120	68	97.5	248.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,761	1,505	1,297	83.5	112.9
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	639	513	295	24.6	116.6
Wholesale Trade	80	77	32	3.9	150.0
Retail Trade	328	285	178	15.1	84.3
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	231	151	85	53.0	171.8
Information	18	16	14	12.5	28.6
Financial Activities	75	63	54	19.0	38.9
Prof. and Business Svcs.	447	269	222	66.2	101.4
Educational & Health Svcs.	145	165	84	-12.1	72.6
Leisure & Hospitality	1,314	387	581	239.5	126.2
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	123	92	47	33.7	161.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	385	207	238	86.0	61.8
Federal Government	220	70	136	214.3	61.8
State Government	31	19	23	63.2	34.8
Local Government	134	118	79	13.6	69.6
Local Education	24	34	19	-29.4	26.3
UNCLASSIFIED	515	396	188	30.1	173.9
Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**647**	**414**	**364**	**56.3**	**77.7**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	356	157	150	126.8	137.3
Construction	294	140	132	110.0	122.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	224	212	169	5.7	32.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	80	73	51	9.6	56.9
Financial Activities	14	10	5	40.0	180.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	58	45	46	28.9	26.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	26	31	24	-16.1	8.3
Leisure & Hospitality	34	35	30	-2.9	13.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	43	31	26	38.7	65.4
UNCLASSIFIED	24	14	19	71.4	26.3
Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**581**	**401**	**243**	**44.9**	**139.1**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	262	133	126	97.0	107.9
Construction	198	87	85	127.6	132.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	285	238	100	19.7	185.0
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	92	80	23	15.0	300.0
Financial Activities	8	10	7	-20.0	14.3
Prof. & Business Svcs.	53	39	16	35.9	231.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	30	29	15	3.4	100.0
Leisure & Hospitality	61	45	26	35.6	134.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	21	17	10	23.5	110.0
UNCLASSIFIED	13	13	7	0.0	85.7

[a]An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

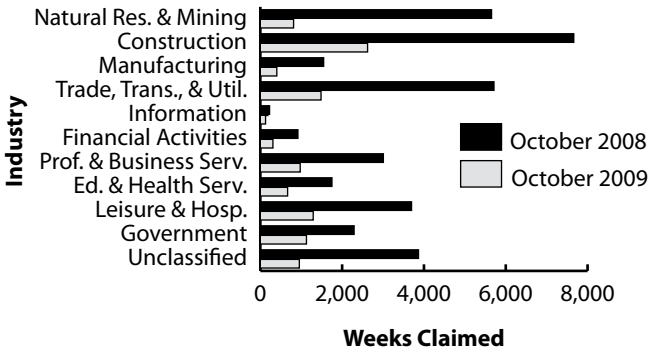
Continued weeks claimed increased by 0.9% compared to September and 239.1% compared to a year ago. Extended benefit claims rose as more workers exhausted their state UI benefits.

Continued Claims

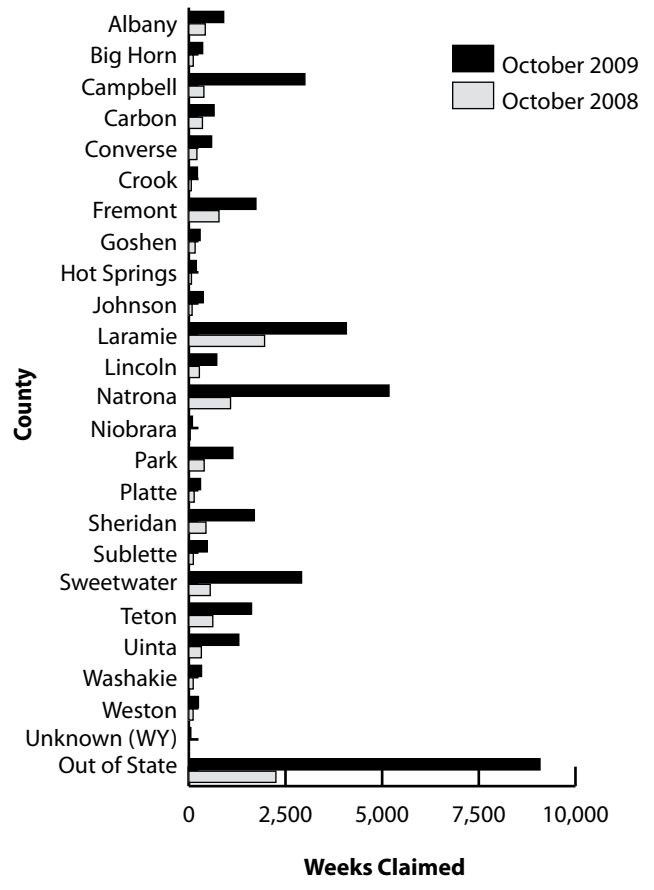
	Continued Weeks Claimed			Percent Change Weeks Claimed	
	Oct 09	Sep 09	Oct 08	Oct 09 Sep 09	Oct 09 Oct 08
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**37,548**	**37,215**	**11,072**	**0.9**	**239.1**
EXTENDED WEEKS CLAIMED	**16,641**	**12,420**	**1,326**	**34.0**	**1,155.0**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**10,993**	**8,875**	**3,003**	**23.9**	**266.1**
Benefit Exhaustions	1,254	1,249	236	0.4	431.4
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	11.4%	14.1%	7.9%	-2.7%	3.5%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	14,864	16,016	3,838	-7.2	287.3
Natural Res. & Mining	5,653	7,164	813	-21.1	595.3
Mining	5,479	6,964	784	-21.3	598.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	332	359	261	-7.5	27.2
Construction	7,663	7,201	2,622	6.4	192.3
Manufacturing	1,548	1,651	403	-6.2	284.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	16,524	15,172	5,152	8.9	220.7
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	5,712	5,748	1,484	-0.6	284.9
Wholesale Trade	1,245	1,431	222	-13.0	460.8
Retail Trade	2,843	2,733	813	4.0	249.7
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	1,624	1,584	449	2.5	261.7
Information	226	263	128	-14.1	76.6
Financial Activities	919	1,035	308	-11.2	198.4
Prof. & Business Services	3,008	2,812	975	7.0	208.5
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,751	1,718	667	1.9	162.5
Leisure and Hospitality	3,697	2,395	1,293	54.4	185.9
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	1,211	1,201	297	0.8	307.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,293	2,172	1,128	5.6	103.3
Federal Government	615	478	337	28.7	82.5
State Government	358	382	166	-6.3	115.7
Local Government	1,320	1,312	625	0.6	111.2
Local Education	428	456	195	-6.1	119.5
UNCLASSIFIED	3,867	3,855	954	0.3	305.3
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**4,073**	**3,645**	**1,959**	**11.7**	**107.9**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**1,220**	**897**	**505**	**36.0**	**141.6**
Total Goods-Producing	1,269	964	582	31.6	118.0
Construction	998	689	472	44.8	111.4
Total Service-Providing	2,280	2,198	987	3.7	131.0
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	801	824	322	-2.8	148.8
Financial Activities	158	155	63	1.9	150.8
Prof. & Business Svcs.	502	422	245	19.0	104.9
Educational and Health Svcs.	345	356	148	-3.1	133.1
Leisure & Hospitality	291	268	129	8.6	125.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	380	329	251	15.5	51.4
UNCLASSIFIED	144	154	139	-6.5	3.6
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**5,180**	**5,470**	**1,079**	**-5.3**	**380.1**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**1,443**	**1,253**	**295**	**15.2**	**389.2**
Total Goods-Producing	2,075	2,320	417	-10.6	397.6
Construction	755	681	243	10.9	210.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,782	2,837	594	-1.9	368.4
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	1,037	1,145	142	-9.4	630.3
Financial Activities	167	198	54	-15.7	209.3
Professional & Business Svcs.	411	361	108	13.9	280.6
Educational & Health Svcs.	308	281	108	9.6	185.2
Leisure & Hospitality	338	347	96	-2.6	252.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	203	199	40	2.0	407.5
UNCLASSIFIED	120	114	28	5.3	328.6

[a]For an explanation of normalization, see page 23.

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, October 2009



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, October 2009



Wyoming Department
of Employment
Research & Planning
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Casper, WY 82602

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